

Educational

A TALK TO STUDENTS.

BY JAMES T. FIELDS.

Mr. Fields visited Exeter Academy and made the following, capital speech to the students. After a few well chosen introductory words he said:

"There never was a greater chance for first rate men in all professions than just now, in our own era. And it is you, who are studying that you may be successful, ought to know. Remember, I say the great chance is for men who are A, B, C, not for those who are only D, E, F, but for thoroughbred, accurate scholars. When a young graduate once comes to Daniel Webster that the professions were all full and that there was no room left for him, the great lawyer and statesman simply replied, 'There is always room at the top of young men.' Now the difficulty in our America is, that while we are all 'pretty well' educated, very few of us are first-raters and carry all the guns we might. We forget that if a man does not know a thing accurately he positively does not know it at all. It is only now and then that we launch a really solid, substantial scholar complete in all points, into the world. Look at Congress to-day! Look anywhere! At long intervals, Wayland, Webster, Bancroft, Choate, Prescott, Channing, Lowell, Sumner, Motley, Lowell—and then a whole host of semi-intellectual parodies still struggling about on exhibition, with a few fine feathers sweeping along the dusty highways of learning. Is it not amazing, that since 1855, there have hardly graduated from any American college a man who has yet made any great mark either as a lawyer, an orator, a statesman, a poet, a preacher, an essayist or an historian? In all the sciences we have done nobly, but it is really time for us to show better results in other departments of learning."

"Did it ever occur to you, my friends, that you never hear of your own country those everyday phrases as common among us—'I am a pretty good scholar,' 'near enough'! All over England the word 'right' is sounding in your ears, and it goes into their scholarship as well as into their railroads. You may depend upon it, we shall never truly get on in politics, in morals, in government, until we also can cry out 'Right!' much oftener than we can now. Accuracy in everything is our best ally. It is especially marked in our scholarship. Why, there is not a third rate town in Protestant Germany to-day that could not easily beat any of our larger cities in the number of accurate, thoroughly informed scholars. We are contented with mediocrity. They demand thoroughness! When I hear it said of a man that he is a 'pretty good scholar,' I can't help thinking of a 'pretty good' egg. Unless an egg is absolutely perfect we use it away from the table. Ignorance is hateful, and simply to render ourselves with learning is a devil's mistake. I think it a great piece of good fortune for anyone to be born in America, the greatest good luck in the world; but how we dare be ignorant of so many things is to me unaccountable. Just for the simple reason that we have acquired information. Given brains and we always claim the privilege of knocking a man down if he disputes with us the fact of this possession, and all we can require, and must acquire, are these three—Attention, Persistence, and Memory."

"These can all be had for the asking; they can all be strengthened if they happen to be weak in any special case. You notice I do not reckon in here for I can not conceive of a real student, a young man of brains or common sense, who loves learning, and means to be a first-rater, and by-and-by I cannot conceive of his having any time or inclination for those idle immorality which turn a man into a brute. I take it, that sort of thing is not in our line, and so I do not intend to insult you by mixing up lower matter with the things needed, which we are all striving for, viz: the Great Truths of life. Go in for fun and genuine enjoyment. It is a capital rule to play a little every day of our lives. Heaven knows our faces are long enough, naturally, in such a climate as this, but we have only just so many years for real study, and youth went stretch mark, before the twenties in a country so full of war and tear as this one is born into."

I plead with you then for Accuracy. Bure of everything you know, the half-baked scholar is merely an undertone goose. He is simply a quack in every sense. Don't go about in this world of ours, that sorely needs completeness in character, like so many locks without keys or keys without missing locks."

"And don't be afraid of 'lions in the way.' Nine times out of ten the reported lions do not exist at all, or if they do, and can't be slain, go around them and they avoid danger. The difficulty is that many of us are too indolent to keep out of harm's way. I am immensely fond of that plucky reply of a man to an indolent, timid friend. 'Suppose,' said the person who was always borrowing trouble, 'suppose, now, somebody should tell you that you were going to die next Tuesday in a certain street in Boston. What would you do?' 'Do?' said the other, 'why, I wouldn't be there!'"

"All our dictionaries contain at least one very foolish word. It is 'impossible,' secretary once said to him. 'Sir, what you require is impossible.' 'Impossible,' cried Mirabeau, starting from his chair, 'nerved name to me again that blockhead of a word.' Now, downright accurate scholarship is impossible nowhere, and here in America we must come to live very soon. We have already delayed it too long. It will not do to shirk it any longer. When you hear a student reply to a question in mathematics or Greek or history, 'I know the answer very well, I can't find words to express it,' don't you believe him. He does not know the answer. He may think that that does, but the poor old chap is mistaken in his knowledge; if he knew definitely, and this is the only way to know anything, the words would come to his mind, and he would be able to express them."

"It is a great thing to know right, but we begin, under the chance, and we shall never arrive at the point proposed. We shall go on and on in the wrong direction, that leads no whither. We have a story of a traveler, who, wishing to reach Taunton, in the State of Massachusetts, had somehow not turned right and was trotting very comfortably in the opposite direction from the right one to that town. Meeting a farmer in the road, he drew up and asked, 'How far is it to Taunton?' 'Keep straight on,' 'Well,' said the farmer, with a twinkle in his intelligent eye, 'it is keep straight on the way you're going now, it is about 23,000 miles, but if you turn right round and go the other way, it is about half a mile.' And now God bless you, my dear friends."

MODERATION IN EXERCISE.

Gymnasiums are grand things; but let common sense dictate quantities and qualities, and do not allow the dumb bell to drag down the shoulders, nor have you better hang by your feet to a ring till you get black in the face. Running is good; but do not be too rough, nor play with football. Pedestalianism is healthy, but do not forget that the road back is a little farther than the road out, though it may be the same road. (We have forgot the fiction and extravagant use of gymnastics, and several fine examples of its treatment, we found them, next to religion, the best panacea for all earthly ills. We have put down all the burdens of the last fifteen years at the door of the gymnasium, or hung them on the horizontal bars, or demolished them with the belt and of dumb bells. Do not take so much of anything at once that you cannot take any more of it again. Moderation is a big word, which it takes some of us a long time to learn how to spell.—Christian at Work.

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINES.

THE ALDINE CHRONOMETER.—There seems some probability that Mr. Charles D. Townsend, the artist, may within a few years become the American Landseer, at least in that department of art dealing with that second noblest of animals, the dog. Several fine examples of his treatment of this noble subject will be in the collection of many of our readers. Perhaps the very finest thing he has yet done, is shown in the chronom. "Man's Unselfish Friend," forming the annual premium offered by the Aldine, and now just being supplied to those entitled to it. The very nobility of doghood is shown in this fine head and neck of a dog, looking up at his master, with a happy and loving expression, with the great St. Bernard, affording a subject quite as capable of being loved as of loving. How grand is the whole pose! How more than human are those eyes, full of a fixed and loving attention! How perfect is the golden glow of that muzzle, with the clear, mottled, the tip of soft red tongue, and the faintest hint of a smile, that could tear as well as defend, beneath it! How gracefully fall those fine velvet ears! How thoughtfully corrugates the noble brow that might be thinking out a problem instead of merely waiting the commands of a master. How tenderly and yet how naturally, is the neck encircled by that creamy, curly fleece, from which the head rises as proudly yet unconsciously as the faintest indy's from her ruff. How perfect, in short, are all the details of this admirable picture, the mere possession of which, in any home, will be quite equal in effect to a long sermon by the most renowned professor, against cruelty to animals, and much more lasting than the expostulations of Mr. Bergh. The ALDINE does well, both for its own prosperity and the good of its patrons, in extending and offering so excellently excellent a chronom. to the patrons of its series for 1877; and, as we have already remarked, Mr. Townsend, the artist, in it, makes rapid strides toward the head of living artists in that class of delineation.

It is understood that the original of this fine picture will be one of the many fine paintings laid for distribution, through the new Art Union, to all subscribers for the ALDINE. The subscription price is \$8.00, which includes the ALDINE, one year, this Chronom. and one share in the Art Union distribution. DECEMBER ATLANTIC MONTHLY. CONTENTS: POETRY—Ode on the Death of the late Mr. Wm. Longfellow; Visit of the Wrens, by Paul H. Hayne; Land and Sea, by Hiram Rich, etc. FICTION and Narrative—A Foregone Conclusion, by W. D. Howells; A Barrel of Lead, by Amy T. Lamson; A Rebel's Recollections, by George Cary Eggleston. (The End and After. Nature and the Supernatural—Contrast between English Scenery and Our Own, by E. S. Nadel; Old Trees, by J. S. Barry; The Sea and the Vineyard, by N. S. Shaler; Some Results from the Spiritual Studies, by Robert Dale Owen. Ethics—The Righteousness of Money Making, by H. D. Manning; The Right of the Poor to the Poorhouse, by Henry S. McKintosh, and Editorial Criticisms on the Drama. Criticism—Mr. Aldrich's Poetry, by Edgar Fawcett, and reviews of American and German Literature, with criticisms on new Music, and interesting papers on Education.

The SCREEN OF HEALTH for December contains a full volume of that most useful magazine, THE SCREEN OF HEALTH, as may be seen from the following table of contents: Diseases of Childhood; Transmissions of Moral Tendencies; Hearty Supper for Effects; Infant Mortality; A Plea for Hygiene; What shall we Drink? Ventilation; Health and Disease—Illustrated; Popular Physiology, with illustrations; Hygiene in the Pulpit and in the Press; The Skin and Blood; Edible Nuts; Regulating Vices; Pathology; A General Agent; The Cold; The Fever; The various effects of bad food and drink; and many other subjects. Address S. R. WELLS, Publisher, 389 Broadway, New York.

The level of the Dead Sea is 1,300 feet below that of the Mediterranean. The water of the sea is of so great specific gravity as to buoy the human body, and render it easy to float without swimming. The bottom of the water is not that of ordinary ocean water, but is a soft, silty, and the presence of bitumen and sulphur. The temperature and buoyancy renders it difficult to sink in, but once beneath the water, it is not possible for any living thing to rise to the surface.

SHERIFF'S SALE.—In obedience of a writ of execution, I have sold, at public auction, at the Court House in the City of New York, on the 23rd day of December, at 2 o'clock, P. M., all the Court House in the City of New York, and all the contents thereof, including the furniture, fixtures, and all other personal property, and all the rights and interests therein, to the highest bidder, for the sum of \$10,000.00. JAMES F. WELLS, Sheriff.

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IMPORTANT.
As the holidays are approaching, we would advise our patrons to pay a visit to the exclusive establishment of H. & C. Co., formerly Hahn & Block, No. 948 Broad Street, before purchasing in New York. Hahn & Co. have undoubtedly the largest and cheapest stock of toys and fancy articles suitable for holiday presents, in the State, and parties would save time and money by purchasing of them in preference to the same class of houses in New York. Dolls and doll heads for great variety from 1 cent to \$15, etc. Nov. 28th

THE LEADING STORE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
B. IRVIN, 779 Broad Street, Newark, is the sole Agent of W. Bristol & Co's celebrated Fine Shoes for Ladies, Misses and Children, of seven different widths, made on the Macomber Patent Last. These shoes are the most perfect fitting shoes ever produced. They are made on the common sense principle, with wide soles and broad toes, fitting like a glove and are comfortable from the first. The ladies of Bloomfield and vicinity are invited to call. Perfection of fit and superior workmanship guaranteed.

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DIED. ARTHUR—At Bellevue, N. J., on Saturday, Nov. 21, Mrs. Elizabeth Arthur, widow of the late Arthur Arthur, aged 72 years.

JACKSON. On Sunday, Nov. 22, at Montclair, N. J., Caroline J. A. Jackson, widow of the late Luther Jackson, of N. Y., and mother-in-law of Rev. A. R. Wolfe of Montclair.

LUZAR. At Montclair, N. J., Nov. 21, Fannie H., wife of George C. Luzar.

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Feb. 22-bum

Beat, Pork, Veal, Mutton & Lamb
AT THE
Peoples' Market,
BLOOMFIELD CENTER.
VEGETABLES OF ALL KINDS.
POULTRY & GAME IN THEIR SEASONS.
Patrons solicited.
J. W. LEES.

GOAL! GOAL!
RANDOLPH & VAN LIEW.
NOW OFFER
The superior LEHIGH HAZELTON COAL. Also SCRANTON and LACKAWANNA COALS prepared expressly for family use, in Cheanu and Store sizes, delivered screened and in good order at the Lowest Market Prices.
Also KINDLING WOOD.
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The Old Family Store.
EDWARD WILDE,
BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY.
Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions
In every variety
RELIABLE IN QUALITIES,
REASONABLE IN PRICES!
HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS,
HARDWARE, CROCKERY,
PAINTS, OILS, BRUSSES, &c., &c.
WINDOW GLASS of all sizes.
Goods delivered and orders sent for if desired.
Feb. 22

MARTIN BROTHERS,
GROCERS,
BLOOMFIELD, N. J.
offer to the citizens of Bloomfield and vicinity, a fine assortment of GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, TEAS, COFFEES, SPICES,
FLOUR, FEED AND GRAIN,
CANNED GOODS, &c., &c., &c.
which they propose to sell at the Lowest CASH prices.
Goods delivered Free of Charge.

H. DODD
CARRIAGES AND WAGONS
built to order. Also
CARRIAGE PAINTING.
Repairing of all kinds attended to with neatness and dispatch.
Bloomfield avenue, BLOOMFIELD, N. J.
Feb. 22-17

ESTABLISHED 30 YEARS.
JOSEPH B. HARVEY,
ROOFING, LEADERS AND TINWARE, PLUMBING and Gas Fitting. Also Sheet Lead, Lead Pipe, Lift and Force Pumps, Ranges, Hot Air Furnaces, Parlor, Office and Cook Stoves, Hatters' Kettles, Water Closets, Bath Tubs, Cisterns and Wampum.
Feb. 22 BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

BLOOMFIELD NURSERY,
Corner Midland and Morris Avenues Bloomfield, West End.
Green House and Bedding Plants. Kew- greens, Vines, Ornamental and Fruit Trees. Vegetable Plants—all kinds in season.
JOHN RASSBACH
Bloomfield, West End.
May 9, cm.

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MERINO UNDERWEAR
FOR
LADIES' GENTLEMEN & CHILDREN
Ladies' Muslin Underwear,
Ladies' and Children's White Aprons,
HOSIERY OF ALL KINDS.
Hamburg Edgings and Insertings.
RIBBONS, TIES, GLOVES, CORSETS.
A complete assortment of
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W. V. SNYDER & CO.
777 and 729 Broad Street
NEWARK, N. J.

North Ward National Bank
OF NEWARK (NEW JERSEY).
This Institution commenced business in 1873 as a bank of deposit and discount in the Rhodes Building, No. 443 Broad St. nearly opposite the E. & R. R. Depot. Its prosperity, as indicated by its large deposits, which is constantly increasing, proves the necessity and wisdom of its establishment in this part of Newark. It is very conveniently located for residents of Bloomfield, Montclair and vicinity who may desire to have banking facilities in Newark.

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